08 JUL 23 A 11:31

July 20, 2008

CLERK OF COURT
Mitchell H. Cohen Building & U.S. Cooper Courthouse
4th & Cooper Street, Rooms 1050
Camden, NJ 08101

Re: Civil Action Number 07-2867 (NLH), MDL No. 1850

Dear Honorable Judge:

I disagree with the Proposed Settlement and the fact that it does not allow for pain and suffering. Our Pets are only recognized as "property" and not as a family member which they are. I would never suffer the pain I have if it was "property" I lost. However, I would pay any amount to get my Cat back.

My precious cat "Lucky" was poisoned and had Euthanasia as a result of eating the contaminated food. Lucky was an important member of my family, not only to me, but also to my grandchildren, ages 4, 3, 1,and 15 years at the time of his death. I called Lucky "my little boy". He was a gift from my daughter and this was my first time having a Cat in the family. I can never replace him.

I was diagnosed with Leukemia and received a call from my Doctor with the tests results on 3/17/2007. On that same day, my Veterinarian called to advise me that I needed to bring Lucky in immediately as his blood test revealed kidney failure. I had to have my ex-husband rush Lucky to the Hospital, while my Brother took me to the Doctor. I was hysterical, not about my Illness, but about the condition of my cat Lucky.

I spent days at the Animal Hospital with my Veterinarian visiting and soothing Lucky as he had never been away from home. This was a time when I should have been focusing on myself due it my diagnoses of Leukemia. I couldn't because I was so distraught about Lucky. How can anyone not value him as a member of my family?

Because Lucky wasn't improving after several days in the hospital, I brought him home to try and spend some quality time in his last days. I cared for him 24/7, crying and not sleeping until I was forced to bring him in to have Euthanasia and end his suffering. I held him and cried as he died. It was a horrible experience that I will never get over. I am crying as I write this and have cried since I started addressing this situation again.

Please tell me why Menu Foods is not paying for the pain and suffering they have caused? **They value our pets when it comes to making money (marketing) and selling their products**. But now when it comes time to show their remorse for the considerable pain they have caused, they consider our pets "property" and not members of our family? This really angers me.

NO AMOUNT OF MONEY CAN REPLACE MY CAT LUCKY. I KNOW THAT.
WE NEED THE LAWS TO CHANGE, FOR MYSELF AND SO MANY OTHERS THAT LOST THEIR PETS. HE WAS SPECIAL AND TRULY LOVED MY ME AND THE REST OF MY FAMILY. I WILL ALWAYS MISS HIM. I WANT THESE PETS TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR WORTH IN LIFE AND THE UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AND COMPANIONSHIP THEY GIVE TO US AS MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Roberta J. Leahy-Watts
enclosure: **Letter I sent to Menu Foods On May 2007 for your reference**

CC: **(1) Pet Foods Liability & Litigation Settlement, Philadelphia, Pa**
(2) Mary E. Gately, DLP Piper US LLP, 500 8th St, Washington, DC 20004
(3) Kenneth A. Wexler, LLP & Assoc. 55 W Monroe, Suite 3300 , Chicago, Il

Dockets.Justia.com

cc: Clerk of Court
re Civil Action 07-2867 (NLH) MDL 1850

May 27, 2007

Crawford & Company
P.O. Box 149
Tucker, Ga 30085-0149

RE: **Menu Foods Claim**

Dear Crawford & Company:

Enclosed please find all the pertinent information regarding my cat " Lucky" which includes Veterinarian Bills, copies of receipts for cat food I purchased, etc.

Lucky had lost his appetite and was only drinking water when I initially took him to the Veterinarian. I was watching the news when I initially heard about the recall looked up the product I was feeding him on your list. Unfortunately the product, dates and bar codes matched up so I alerted the Vet that this may be the cause since Lucky had never been sick in the past.

The Veterinarian prescribed an antibiotic, drew blood and said he would call me with the results.

I in the meantime had gone to the Doctor myself and was waiting for blood tests results as I had not been feeling well. My Doctor called me and stated my " white blood cell count was off the charts" and the only thing it could be was Leukemia, and I needed to come in that day. An hour later, Dr Bernard called and said that Lucky had extremely elevated kidney levels and needed to be brought in right away. I had my brother take me to the Doctor and my Ex- Husband took Lucky to the Vet for me.

Lucky remained there for several days on an IV. I missed him and visited him daily. He didn't like being there (he was never away from home) so I asked the Vet to let me take him home and see if might get better there. He agreed, and for several days .I cared for Lucky praying he would get better all the while trying to cope with my diagnosis of Leukemia. He wouldn't eat, was losing weight, and had become extremely lethargic.

Words cannot describe what he and I went through. He never recovered (I had more blood drawn on him) and because I felt he may be in pain (I had him on pain medication) and suffering, I had to make the decision to put him down. I took him in to Dr. Bernard and held him during the procedure. I am crying as I write this and cry daily because I miss him. Needless to say, this situation came at a time when I have found it very difficult to cope.

I don't know how many other people and animals were affected, but the impact for me has been extremely hard to cope with. Both my Doctor (Oncologist) and Lucky's (Dr. Bernard) can verify everything I have stated.

I don't know who is responsible for this happening, but I hope they realize how many life's have been affected and the impact this has had on many pets and their owners.. My grandchildren miss him too and I can't even explain it to them as they are too young to understand (ages 2 , 3,& 5). I've enclosed his picture because I want you to see how special he was and not just another statistic.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roberta J. Leahy-Watts

→ me + Lucky (Both sick)

Lucky sleeping with grandkids when well.

← Lucky + my granddaughter age 15.
She loved him too!

Picture of Lucky's Urn & Ashes.

My cat was taken to Vet this same day for Kidney Failure.

DEA # AP2135350

NV LICENSE # 5648

ADVANCED CARDIOVASCULAR SPECIALISTS
STEPHEN J. PORTZ, M.D., F.A.C.C.
BOARD CERTIFIED CARDIOLOGY
3201 SOUTH MARYLAND PARKWAY
SUITE 502
LAS VEGAS, NV 89109
702-733-8600 FAX: 702-733-0374

NAME [illegible]

ADDRESS [illegible] DATE [illegible]

℞ (Please Print)

Dr Paul Michaels

Diagnosis CML

→ New
WBC - 212,000

☐ LABEL

REFILL ______ TIMES PRN NR ______________ M.D.

DISPENSE ONLY AS WRITTEN ☐

20-SEP-06

TRI060920_100116723-16_06_53800_0002

CML =
Chronic Myelogenous
Leukemia

cc:
Proof of diagnosis of Leukemia.

(5)

Comprehensive Cancer Centers
Exceptional Care, Centered Around You

Heather J. Allen, M.D., FACP
Mary Ann K. Allison, M.D., FACP
Mika Cline-Burkhardt, M.D.
Khoi Dao, M.D.
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Joseph Quagliana, M.D.
Noel Rowan, M.D., FACP
Hamidreza Sanatinia, M.D.
James D. Sanchez, M.D.
Anu Thummala, M.D.

☐ 3730 South Eastern Ave. Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 702-952-3400
☐ 9280 W. Sunset Rd. Ste 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89148 702-952-1251
☐ 10001 S. Eastern Ave. Ste 108 Henderson, Nevada 89052 702-952-3444
☐ 7445 Peak Dr. Las Vegas, Nevada 89128 702-952-2140

NAME Roberta Leahy DATE 4/3/07

ADDRESS

℞ (Please Print)

→ Pt is now diagnosed c̄ Leukemia & cannot travel at this time. Please cancel her trip to Italy

Dr. AnuThummala

DEA

Refill 1 2 3 4 5 NR

GENERIC UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

* Cancelled trip I had planned to Italy due to Dx of leukemia [illegible] & [illegible].

* Flew to Chicago instead to be with family on 4/4/07

[illegible] on 4/1/07.

See attached

$340.00